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a first node for transmitting a cell containing test information over one of the transmission links and receiving at least one cell containing test information over at least one of the remaining transmission links; and

a message control device for determining the connectivity of the transmission links based on the test information received at the first node~~AM~~

Remarks

Prior to action on the merits in this application, please enter the above-amendments. Claims 1-5 and 7-13 are now pending in the application. New claims 8-13 more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicant regards as his invention, and correspond to the unelected claims pending in the parent case, *i.e.*, claims 8-12 and 14.

A check in the amount of \$768.00 is enclosed to cover the fee for the new claims. If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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